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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,295	06/30/2004	Deborra J. Zukowski	F-870	4294
919	7590	06/11/2008	EXAMINER	
PITNEY BOWES INC.			TRAN, TUYETLIEN T	
35 WATERVIEW DRIVE				
P.O. BOX 3000			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MSC 26-22			2179	
SHELTON, CT 06484-8000				
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		06/11/2008	PAPER	

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/710,295	ZUKOWSKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	TUYETLIEN T. TRAN	2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2004.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to the following communication: original claims filed on 6/30/2004. **This action is made non-final.**
2. Claims 1-12 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 7 and 11 are independent claims.

***Election/Restrictions***

3. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:
  - A. Species of Figure 7, claims 1-6
  - B. Species of Figure 9, claims 7-10
  - C. Species of Figure 10, claims 11-12
4. The species are independent or distinct because claims to the different species recite the mutually exclusive characteristics of such species. In addition, these species are not obvious variants of each other based on the current record.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Currently, there is no generic.

There is an examination and search burden for these patentably distinct species due to their mutually exclusive characteristics. The species require a different field of search (e.g., searching different classes/subclasses or electronic resources, or employing different search queries); and/or the prior art applicable to one species would not likely be applicable to another species; and/or the species are likely to raise different non-prior art issues under 35 U.S.C. 101 and/or 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

5. During a telephone conversation with Mr. George M. Macdonald, Reg. No. 39284 on or about 6/03/2008 a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of group A, claims 1-6. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action. Claims 7-12 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named

inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. **Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gossweiler III et al (Patent No. US 7089288 B2; hereinafter Gossweiler) in view of Thorman et al. (Pub. No. US 2005/0131959 A1; hereinafter Thorman).**

**As to claim 1,** Gossweiller teaches:

A method for processing a physical token in a responsive environment (e.g., see Fig. 1) comprising:

placing a sensor in proximity to the token (e.g., see col. 2 lines 9-20, col. 4 lines 61-67);

placing the token in an association bin (e.g., see col. 2 lines 39-55);

Gossweiller further teaches the capability for the user to interactively provide unique identification numbers and/or supply additional data for immediate association with the tag (e.g., see col. 5 lines 47-67). Gossweiller teaches the physical token can be used to open or print a particular electronic document (e.g., see col. 6 lines 14-36 and lines 60-67); therefore, Gossweiller teaches the step of identifying a document to register with the token and creating a sensor model instance (e.g., see col. 2 lines 56-67 through col. 3 lines 1-35, col. 6 lines 14-36). Gossweiller does not teach launching a document browser application and obtaining user selection data identifying a document.

Thorman teaches a file browser that allows the user to identify files or documents for further manipulating (e.g., Figs. 4-5 and [0032]). Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include the file browser feature as taught in Thorman in the method of Gossweiller to allow the user to select a document to register using a launching document browser. One would be motivated to make this combination is because file browser application allows the user to easily identify files or documents for further manipulating (e.g., see Thorman [0032]).

**As to claim 2**, Gossweiller further teaches setting a sensor name property (e.g., col. 5 lines 47-57, col. 6 lines 14-36).

**As to claim 3**, Gossweiller further teaches setting the sensor name property using an identifier associated with the document (e.g., col. 5 lines 58-67 through col. 6 lines 1-13, col. 6 lines 60-67).

**As to claim 4**, Gossweiller further teaches setting a sensor type property to indicate a physical sensor (e.g., col. 6 lines 60-67 through col. 7 lines 1-13).

**As to claim 5**, Gossweiller further teaches setting a sensor class property to indicate touch detection (e.g., col. 6 lines 60-67 through col. 7 lines 1-13).

**As to claim 6**, Gossweiller further teaches the sensor is attached to the token (e.g., see col. 2 lines 9-20, col. 4 lines 61-67).

### **Conclusion**

The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action.

**It is noted that any citation to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary skill in the art. In re Heck, 699 F.2d 1331, 1332-33,216 USPQ 1038, 1039 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (quoting In re Lemelson, 397 F.2d 1006,1009, 158 USPQ 275,277 (CCPA 1968)).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-270-1033. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday: 7:30 - 5:00, off on alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/TuyetLien T Tran/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2179

/Weilun Lo/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2179